



County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Social Services

Bryce Yokomizo
Director

April 7, 2003

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MOTION: L.A. COUNTY FOOD STAMP
ERROR RATE PROGRESS REPORT

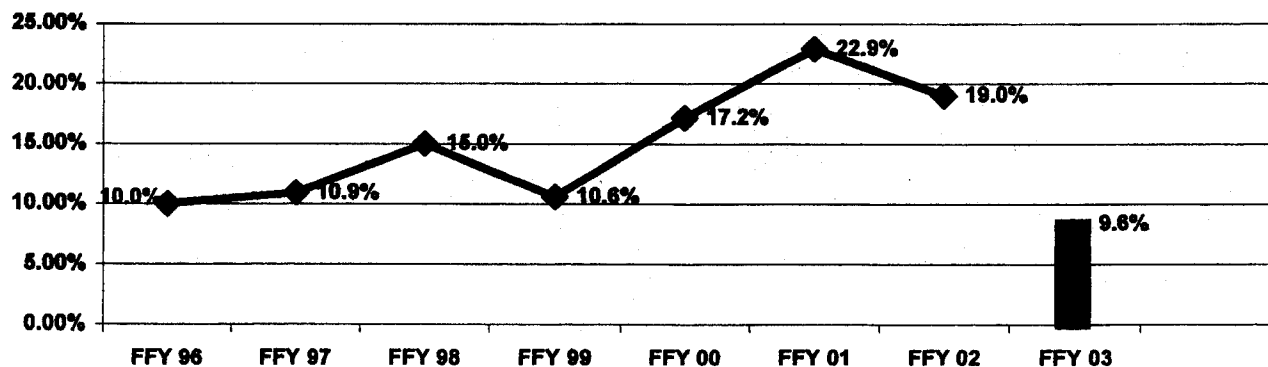
This is to provide your Board with the departmental progress report on the Los Angeles County Food Stamp error rate. Representatives from the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) have reviewed and concur with the information in this report. The Auditor-Controller (A-C) has reviewed and concurs with the error rates reflected in the "Error Rate" section of this report.

ERROR RATE

I'm pleased to report that we are making significant progress in reducing our Food Stamp error rate. Based on findings from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Quality Control (QC) reviews, the Department's preliminary cumulative Food Stamp error rate for October 2002 and November 2002, the first two months of the new Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2003, is 9.6%. This continues the downward trend in our error rate and reflects the effectiveness of our corrective action initiatives.

The chart below reflects the Department's annual cumulative Food Stamp error rate over the last seven federal fiscal years (October through September), and the preliminary cumulative error rate for FFY 2003 for October and November, 2002.

TRENDS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ERROR RATE FFY 1996-2002



Source: CDSS Disposition Reports.

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INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

My Department continues to aggressively pursue corrective action initiatives that aid in the overall goal to reduce the Food Stamp error rate.

SANCTION APPEAL FOR CALIFORNIA AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Preston, Gates and Ellis, the attorneys retained by CDSS, filed an Appeal Petition on February 7, 2003, requesting that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reduce the Food Stamp sanction claim from \$114 million to zero dollars. In their Petition, they provide support and justification for this Appeal. USDA has asked for an extension for their response until April 6, 2003. My Department and County Counsel have worked with CDSS and their attorneys, and I will keep your Board apprised of the status and progress of the Appeal.

I will continue to provide your Board with regular progress reports on our Department's Food Stamp error rate.

BY:ps

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller